

**CLARK COUNTY  
CLEAN WATER COMMISSION**

**Meeting Summary**

Wednesday, April 5, 2006

6:30 – 8:30 P.M.

Public Works Operations Conference Room B-1  
4700 NE 78<sup>th</sup> Street, Vancouver

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Clark County Clean Water Commission Members Present

Bill Owen, Art Stubbs, Virginia van Breemen

Clark County Clean Water Commission Members Absent

Tim Crawford, Robert Even, Patty Page, Susan Rasmussen, Ron Wilson

Clark County Staff

Trista Kobluskie, Cindy Stienbarger, Rod Swanson

Public

Thom McConathy

A quorum was not achieved.

**Call to Order**

*Introduction*

The members of the Clark County Clean Water Commission, the public, and Clark County staff introduced themselves. The meeting was then called to order.

*Agenda and material review*

The packet includes:

- 1) 4/5/06 Clean Water Commission Meeting Agenda
- 2) 3/1/06 Clean Water Commission Meeting Notes
- 3) Letter to BOCC from Chair Re: Troutdale Sole Source Aquifer Petition
- 4) Table of contents from LID Resources CD
- 5) Article from *The Columbian*
- 6) NPDES Municipal Stormwater Permit Update

*Communications with the Public*

Mr. Swanson stated that Mr. Wierenga would give a presentation to the Grange Association about the Clean Water Program the same evening.

**Public Comments**

Mr. McConathy stated that the Clean Water Program should reinstate its program to map streams and ditches that are contiguous with wetlands or waterways of the state to support the update of the Operations & Maintenance manual. This could assist the county and emergency response personnel in



determining proper procedures when maintenance is needed or an emergency occurs in or near a ditch or stream.

Mr. Owen asked if the O & M manual will be updated under the new NPDES permit. Mr. Swanson: maintenance standards would be updated to 2005 standards. Mr. Owen asked if public comment would be taken during the update. Mr. Swanson: a task force and consultants usually update administrative rules. If we adopt a manual as County Code, to implement the stormwater ordinance or the water quality ordinance, for instance, then the public would have opportunity to comment.

Mr. Stubbs asked if the maintenance and operations crews would have sufficient funding to operate under the new NPDES permit. The group discussed maintenance costs and efficiencies that might be attained with GIS.

## **Old Business**

### *Education Subcommittee Update*

Mrs. Stienbarger listed some upcoming events, including the Small Farm Expo and the Lacamas Watershed Festival.

Mrs. Stienbarger said that the Subcommittee has been discussing the new draft NPDES permit. She distributed a draft discussion document that lists new requirements or new audiences for the outreach & education component. She also distributed a draft matrix that compares current program activities with new requirements.

The group discussed how much more measurement will be required under the new permit, especially a new requirement for measuring changes in behavior. Ecology does not provide examples of meeting this standard. Mr. McConathy recommended first identifying specific problems at individual outfalls, then tailoring education programs to the specific problem in the contributing area.

Mr. Owen asked if the Subcommittee would still help Mrs. Stienbarger formulate the budget for the next biennium. Mrs. Stienbarger: the process of comparing current activities with new permit requirements will help me create the budget.

Mrs. Stienbarger said that she is considering administering a county-wide survey of stormwater issues to provide baseline data for the measurement requirements in the new permit.

### *LID Update*

Mr. Owen said that he and Mr. Even met with the Building Industry Association to talk about encouraging LID usage among developers. Very little more can be done until county staff and the Board of County Commissioners buy off on the idea.

### *Capital Improvement Program Update*

Mr. Owen stated that most Clean Water Commission members attended the first meeting of the SCIPIT process (Stormwater Capital Improvement Involvement Team) to prioritize capital projects for stormwater and water quality. The next meeting is May 9<sup>th</sup>, and the process will end in August.

Mr. Owen agreed to ask at the next SCIPIT meeting if the list of submitted projects includes any from the Legacy Salmon Creek plan or the Burnt Bridge Creek plan.

### *2006 Discussion Topics*

Mr. Owen stated that the Commissioners could select smaller groups to tackle each 2006 discussion topic and related deliverables. He stated that Mr. Wilson has shown particular interest in researching stormwater filter vaults and might be willing to head up a group to look into it. He asked who else might be interested in that topic. Ms. Kobluskie said that Ms. Page had shown particular interest in it also.

### *2005 Annual Report*

Mr. Owen will contact Mr. Even about his component. Mr. Owen stated that he plans to assemble a draft of the report within the next two weeks and then send it for review to Water Resources staff.

Ms. Kobluskie asked if the Commission prefers to present the Annual Report to the Board of County Commissioners during a work session or a luncheon. The group discussed the issue. Ms. Kobluskie will provide a list of available dates for either a work session or a luncheon, and Mr. Owen will poll the Clean Water Commissioners via email. The group will select a date by Wednesday, April 12.

### **New Business**

#### *NPDES Permit Update*

Mr. Swanson reviewed the new activities that may be required under the new NPDES Permit. The new permit differs from the old in that it is more prescriptive, therefore the new permit will act as the bare-bones work plan for the next 5 years.

Mr. Swanson: because the permit is still in draft form, all comments and plans are preliminary. Likely significant changes or increases include: drywells and infiltration trenches will be covered under different state regulations, training and reporting, storm sewer mapping, coordination, public involvement, development regulations, source control BMPs, operation & maintenance manual, education & outreach, and monitoring.

Mr. Stubbs asked how much administrative costs would increase to implement the new permit requirements. Mr. Swanson: probably significant increases in the first couple of years, but then increased efficiencies should reduce administrative costs. Mr. Owen asked at what point during the permit development process will the county determine if current funding is sufficient for the new requirements. Mr. Swanson: we will probably start looking at that issue later this year.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Clean Water Commission will be held on Wednesday, May 3, 2006 from 6:30 P.M. – 8:30 P.M. The location is the Mountain Valley Grange Hall, 40107 NE 221 Avenue, Amboy.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Trista Kobluskie